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### Report : Mr. Ingalls

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S. Rep. No. 511, 43rd Cong., 2nd Sess. (1875)

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 8, 1875.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. INGALLS submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. 836.]

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 836) granting a pension to William Ira Mayfield, having had the same under consideration, respectfully report :*

That the evidence in this case shows that William Ira Mayfield, on the 31st day of October, 1855, in a fight with the Rogue River Indians, as a private of Company A, Capt. J. Smiley Harris, of the Ninth Regiment, Col. John E. Ross, Oregon Mounted Volunteers, was severely wounded by a rifle-ball which entered the joint of the right knee, passing through the joint and fracturing the bone to the under side of the leg, in consequence of which he lay in hospital at Jacksonville, Oregon, for months; that said wound prevents him from obtaining a living by manual labor; that he entered the service at Jacksonville, Oregon, October 10, 1855, and was honorably discharged November 21, 1855; that some time in the year 1870 he made application to the Commissioner of Pensions for a pension, and that the same was disallowed for the reason that there was no law under which a pension could be granted him.

A law was passed March 2, 1861, making appropriations for the payment of certain troops serving against the Indians in Oregon, including the regiment in which said Mayfield served, but it did not authorize the allowance of pensions or land-warrants.

Said Mayfield asks that he may be granted a pension and placed upon the same footing with the commands of Capt. Jesse Walker and Nathan Olney, of the Oregon volunteers of 1854.

The Third Auditor of the Treasury Department, who has the custody of the muster-rolls of the Oregon troops during the Indian war of 1855 and 1856, reports that said W. I. Mayfield is borne upon the muster-rolls of Captain Harris's company, Ninth Regiment, Oregon Mounted Volunteers, as a private, and that a remark upon the rolls shows said soldier to have been severely wounded October 31, 1855, and that Captain Harris's company was mustered into service October 10, 1855, and disbanded November 21, 1855, and that Mayfield was paid for his service in said company.

The Acting Commissioner of Pensions reports that there is no law under which a pension can be allowed said Mayfield; but as the wound referred to on the rolls of the company on file at the office of the Third Auditor of the Treasury was received in the line of duty while in the service of the United States, the case is entitled to favorable consideration, and the committee recommend the passage of the bill with an amendment striking out all after the word "roll" in the fifth line, and inserting "subject to the provisions and limitations of the pension laws, to take effect from the passage of this act."